

c318BC

Greece
Birth of PYRRHUS II, greatest
hero of his time

318 BC

Aristoxenus of Tarentum,
theorist of music.

318 BC

A Roman Army trapped in a mountain valley had to surrender to the Samnites. The soldiers were forced to give up their arms and march under a yoke composed of two spears surmounted by another set up above as a crossbar. This great dishonour, as well as the necessity of marching homeward in their shirts, was extremely galling to the Roman pride. 600 Roman knights (wealthy

cavalry soldiers) had to stay with the
Samnites as hostages to ensure that
Rome would keep the peace. The war
was not resumed for some time.

3185C

Polysperchon (POLYSPERCHON)
succeeds Antipater as Regent.

318 BC

SAMNITE WAR

(Great Samnite victory)

The Samnites had only a loose federation, for they lived in many different valleys. This put them at a disadvantage against Rome, with her centralized power controlling numerous allies. But the hill country was rough, and the Roman military force was like the Greek hoplite mass, best suited to fighting on smooth ground. A Roman army, trapped in a mountain valley,